

Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending November 14, 2004

Released: 3:00 P.M., November 15, 2004

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending November 14, 2004**. Farmers continue to report the presence of blast in planted ryegrass. The fungus that causes blast, *pyricularia grisea*, has affected many acres of ryegrass in southern Mississippi, but farmers are hopeful that cooler temperatures will slow blast development. Most of the summer grasses used for grazing have been grazed, and cattle producers are feeding hay and supplements until ryegrass growth is complete. Sweetpotato harvesting is still in full-swing and should be complete by the end of the month. Soil moisture was rated 6 percent short, 81 percent adequate and 13 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2003	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Cotton	Harvested	94	89	98	94	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Planted	69	44	95	81	0	1	56	39	4
	Emerged	42	34	85	62					
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	88	86	100	98	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						3	7	18	58	14

County Agent Comments

"We have almost finished harvesting all crops. We need to get some stalks cut and prepare the ground for next year's crop."

— Don Respons, Bolivar

"Producers had a chance to catch up on harvesting soybeans and cotton. We need some more good weather to complete harvesting crops."

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

"Short days combined with cloudy skies and periodic rain have prevented fields from drying. Cotton harvest needs two weeks of dry weather for completion. Warm temperatures have caused some early planted wheat and oats to begin internode elongation, and some fields are in boot stage."

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

"Almost all producers have completed harvest activities. Also, most producers are in excellent shape on fall tillage work and equipment maintenance."

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

"During the past week, producers have been able to make significant progress in completing the harvest. Only the latest planted fields and those affected most by flood water in the early part of the season are now remaining."

— Ernest Flint, Attala

"Pastures remain green with no frost in sight. Some areas are beginning to get a little dry. Blast has been found on some ryegrass fields. Cattlemen have not begun feeding hay yet."

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

"Summer grass is just about gone for this year. Producers are having to feed hay and other supplements until ryegrass is ready to graze. Most cattle are in good condition."

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Harvest is complete. Rains have put an end to fall tillage. Yield data is not available at this time on cotton and beans. Blast on ryegrass should be slowing down, but the disease has taken a toll on winter pastures planted in early-to-mid-September.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Rye grass is emerging and grazing is improving. Cooler temperatures will be a plus for cool-season vegetable production as well as grazing for cattle. If there is no additional rainfall within the next week, winter wheat planting should be completed.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“If we can get another 4-5 days in the field, we will wrap up this year’s harvest.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“The last beans have been cut. A little of the late cotton is all that is left. Blast has been found in one patch of ryegrass in the southern part of the county.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Wheat planting has probably been completed. Wheat planting may be lower due to poor planting conditions and lack of interest in planting a crop requiring nitrogen fertilizer. Cotton and soybean harvest is over for all practical purposes. Gins are beginning to look for the last modules to be ginned in the next week or so. Some fieldwork is taking place on lighter-textured soils.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“As I was on a farm visit last week, I was surprised to find some armyworms still in ryegrass. They were inactive and seemed to be curled up at the soil surface. The Blast has also slowed down with the cooler weather.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Beef and dairy producers continue to be plagued with problems affecting their ryegrass. Dry weather conditions delayed planting and got our cool-season forages off to a very slow start. Once the rains finally fell, hot weather conditions generated ideal growth conditions for *Pyricularia-grisea*, the fungus causing grey leaf spot or "Blast". Blast has infected many acres of ryegrass in the county, and most producers will be forced to replant at least a portion of their ryegrass pastures. Hopefully, cooler and drier conditions will prevent further development of Blast problems.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Rains were welcomed, but we could still use some more. Ryegrass stands are off to a slow start, and blast has been a problem for some. The cooler weather feels good, and hopefully this will make the deer start stirring.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

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Weather Summary from November 8, 2004 to November 14, 2004 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston				53		0.10	-1.25	1	7.46				
Cleveland	77	43	56	54	+2	0.11	-1.25	2	4.31				
Tunica	78	39	56	53	+3	0.75	-0.49	2	7.15				
Extreme/Average	78	39	56	54	+2	0.32	-0.93	2	6.31				
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	78	35	54	51	+3	0.05	-1.22	1	5.71				
Calhoun City	75	39	56	53	+3	0.05	-1.03	1	3.76				
Independence	74	39	55	52	+3	0.32	-0.78	2	5.92				
Oxford				52		0.00	-1.23	0	2.91				
Extreme/Average	78	35	55	53	+2	0.11	-1.11	1	4.58				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	77	45	57	52	+5	0.20	-1.05	1	3.93				
Iuka	75	34	52	50	+2	0.51	-0.77	2	5.83				
Ripley	77	40	53	51	+2	0.13	-1.15	1	4.45				
Tupelo	77	42	57			0.13		1	4.64				
Verona				53		0.27	-0.78	2	5.83				
Extreme/Average	77	34	55	53	+2	0.25	-0.98	1	4.94				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	79	46	59	56	+3	0.05	-1.15	3	3.45				
Rolling Fork	81	47	60	56	+4	0.00	-1.12	0	3.30	72			45
Stoneville	80	44	61	55	+6	0.48	-0.72	1	4.95	71	53		60
Yazoo City	78	41	58	57	+1	0.19	-0.99	1	2.58				
Extreme/Average	81	41	59	56	+3	0.18	-1.03	1	3.57	72			53
5. Central													
Canton	78	40	58	56	+2	0.14	-1.09	2	1.76				
Carthage	78	40	58	55	+3	0.43	-0.79	2	2.80				
Lexington	77	40	56	55	+1	0.36	-0.88	2	4.17				
Eupora	78	39	56	53	+3	0.23	-0.95	2	2.43				
Extreme/Average	78	39	57	55	+2	0.29	-0.92	2	2.79				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	77	44	57	53	+4	0.67	-0.41	2	3.22				
Houston	76	40	56	52	+4	0.26	-0.93	2	3.32				
Louisville				55		0.48	-0.64	2	3.75				
State University	79	41	57	55	+2	0.47	-0.60	2	3.62	65	59	61	0.08
Extreme/Average	79	40	57	55	+2	0.47	-0.69	2	3.48	65	59	61	0.08
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	78	44	60	58	+2	0.37	-0.65	2	4.22	73	58	64	
Natchez	76	42	60	59	+1	0.07	-1.20	2	4.62				
Oakley	78	38	60	56	+4	0.12	-1.06	1	3.23	67	61	64	
Vicksburg	76	41	59			0.22		2	2.67				
Extreme/Average	78	38	60	58	+2	0.20	-0.96	2	3.69	73	58	64	
8. South-Central													
Collins	76	43	58	57	+1	0.81	-0.30	3	5.03				
Columbia				58		0.77	-0.35	2	3.88				
Tylertown	76	37	59	59	0	0.53	-0.59	2	5.16				
Extreme/Average	76	37	58	58	0	0.70	-0.43	2	4.69				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						1.40		2	4.03				
Hattiesburg	77	45	59	59	0	0.70	-0.54	2	2.46				
Laurel	77	40	59	57	+2	1.83	+0.71	3	3.80				
Newton	77	36	55	55	0	0.63	-0.58	3	5.61	65	58	61	0.08
Extreme/Average	77	36	57	57	0	1.14	-0.02	3	3.98	65	58	61	0.08
10. Coastal													
Gulfport	76	48	63	62	+1	2.89	+1.77	2	4.93				
Poplarville	74	45	59	60	-1	0.73	-0.36	2	5.12	69	63	65	0.11
Waveland	78	50	65	60	+5	0.92	-0.31	1	2.88				
Extreme/Average	78	45	62	61	+1	1.51	+0.33	2	4.31	69	63	65	0.11
State	81	34	58	56	+2	0.51	-0.67	2	4.07	73		61	0.09

DFN = Departure from Normal.